



Identification, Dissemination and Exchange of good practice in
Local Employment development and promoting better governance

CASE STUDY FICHE

The fiche is a guide to the kind of information we need to gather about potential case studies – it is not a questionnaire that needs to be strictly followed. The important thing is that you gain a rounded understanding of the case study and an idea of its value to the seminar. However, we need certain key information for the seminar packs and for the final report.

Seminar leaders will add specific questions relevant to the particular theme.

General details

Case Study name	<p>„Bildungspartnerschaft Vorarlberg“ http://www.bildungspartnerschaft.at/</p> <p><i>vorgeschlagen von Dirk Maier, Nationale TEP Koordinationsstelle</i></p>
Purpose of the partnership/activity/strategy/project	The aim of the „Education partnership Vorarlberg“ is, in view of the „learning regions“ vision, to look after in particular those people who for a variety of reasons (discrimination, age, others) are disadvantaged in their access to education.
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Email address	iap.michalek@vol.at
Name of Contact	Wolfgang Michalek
Background on lead organisation	
Database category (delete irrelevant ones)	<p>A: Supporting enterprise B: Developing routes into employment for disadvantaged groups C: Addressing skills shortages and promoting life-long learning D: Social enterprise E: Empowering local communities F: Diversifying local economic base</p>

Case study description

Background to the case study	The project was started against the background of a demographic change in the region (immigrants, aging population, increase in unemployment) and the vision of establishing a learning region.
<p>Description of the characteristics of the 'milieu' of the case study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic • Geographical • Political/governance • Cultural • Other 	<p><u>Economic:</u> Growing unemployment, need to reach out to disadvantaged groups and interest them in lifelong learning</p> <p><u>Geographic</u> Vorarlberg has borders with 2 other European countries that compete economically and needs to maintain and increase its productivity.</p> <p><u>Cultural</u> There is a weak tradition of learning in the region (a large share of people only has a high school leaving diploma. LLL culture is particularly weak among the immigrant communities.</p> <p><u>Political</u> Vorarlberg is a small region, with 400.000 inhabitants and 10.000 unemployed. LLL is regarded as increasingly important.</p>
Description of activity	
Objectives	<p>Strategic objectives of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving awareness and acceptance of lifelong learning in education and CT 2. Active integration of disadvantaged population groups in the education system in order to achieve long-term careers and secure these 3. Sustainable increase in participation in CT of the target groups 4. preventative reduction and prevention of excluding and disadvantage in connection with initial and continuing training
Geographical focus of the project	The Land of Vorarlberg, which is one of the smallest Austrian Länder, counting only 400.000 people.
Have you worked in partnership with other organisations ? If so, with what organisations ?	<p>P1 Land Vorarlberg /Abt.Wirtschaft P2 iap projektmanagement P3 Arbeitsmarktservice Vorarlberg P4 Arbeiterkammer Vorarlberg P5 ÖGB Vorarlberg P6 Wirtschaftskammer Vorarlberg P7 Industriellenvereinigung Vorarlberg P8 Bundessozialamt Vorarlberg P9 Bildungscenter Arbeiterkammer P10 WIFI Vorarlberg P11 BIFO Berufs- und Bildungsinformation Vorarlberg P12 e-Voris P13 Vorarlberger Volkswirtschaftliche Gesellschaft - Schule</p>

	<p>& Wirtschaft P14 Vorarlberger Landesverband der Elternvereine an Mittleren & Höheren Schulen P15 Vorarlberger Landesverband der Elternvereine für Pflichtschulen P 16 Landesschulrat Vorarlberg P 17 Begleitende Unternehmensberatung Steiner</p>
<p>Have you involved other tiers of government in the project (such as national or regional stakeholders) ? Get contact details for validation/triangulation</p>	<p>All partners are regional-level organisations.</p>
<p>Target groups</p>	<p>People who are disadvantaged regarding their access to lifelong learning.</p>
<p>Particular successes</p>	<p>Very successful in schools (sensitising teachers) On the advice activities, some forms were not taken up as well as others (reason for this will be evaluated) Personal advice and guidance: objectives have been reached Marketing campaign difficult to evaluate Part-successes in reaching target audiences by working with the (ethnic) communities Development of a trans-national self-assessment tool (www.checkk.at)</p>
<p>Problems faced/overcome</p>	<p>Lack of tradition of learning in the region Finding strategies to engage people from immigrant communities Money and time</p>
<p>Lessons learned</p>	<p>It is difficult to work in partnership in the field of lifelong learning due to issues of competitiveness of the different actors / providers Progress needs to be made on a consensual basis</p>

Theme specific questions: lifelong learning

<p>Is there evidence that cooperation at local level around lifelong learning can be a vehicle for development in your area?</p>	
<p>How can specific groups, such as women, ageing workers, socially excluded people etc. best be integrated into the learning process?</p>	

What can be done to encourage employers and individuals to invest in learning?	
What can local approaches offer in responding to the learning needs of people at different stages in their lives, that national approaches cannot offer?	
What are the X-factors that help local economies become 'success stories' thanks to coherent lifelong learning strategies?	